

My money is still on the old saying that honesty is the best policy. Where simple honesty is concerned, there is no such thing as executive privilege. Sooner or later, straight answers will have to come out. The longer the White House waits, the greater the harm to themselves and to their bond of trust with the American people.

The sooner we hear the truth, the sooner they will regain public trust and respect. Let me repeat that, Mr. Speaker, not mere approval or popularity but trust and respect. Leaders do not live by polls alone. Without trust and respect, they are nothing, and any title they hold is a mockery.

On his way to Washington for the 1993 inauguration, the President-elect, Bill Clinton, made a stop at Monticello to pay homage to Thomas Jefferson. It was Jefferson who offered, perhaps, the most prophetic comment of the next 6 years of this presidency. No man will ever bring out of the presidency the reputation which carries him into it.

Something is amiss when a president receives almost as many bills from his lawyers as from Congress. The judicial proceedings will run their course regardless of this White House stonewalling. But if the President would just tell the truth to the American people, it would go a long, long way toward bringing this ordeal to an end. The truth, the truth is the only thing now that can preserve the dignity of the presidency.

That is what it is all comes down to, Mr. Speaker, is the truth. The Independent Counsel must pursue it. Congress must expect it. The public must hear it. The President must tell it. Then, finally, we can put this sad chapter behind us and move on.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. UNDERWOOD (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today through noon on Wednesday, March 25, on account of official business in the district.

Mr. MARTINEZ (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of an unexpected emergency.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. TIAHRT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. MORAN of Virginia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EWING, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TIAHRT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CHENOWETH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MICA, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

Mr. YOUNG of Florida and to include extraneous material notwithstanding the fact that it exceeds two pages of the RECORD and is estimated by the Public Printer to cost \$1,055.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) and to include extraneous matter:

Mr. KIND.

Mr. TOWNS.

Mr. KANJORSKI.

Ms. STABENOW.

Mr. DIXON.

Mr. PAYNE.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. TIAHRT) and to include extraneous matter:

Mr. REDMOND.

Mr. PORTMAN.

Mr. BLILEY.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) and to include extraneous matter:

Mr. WEYGAND.

Mr. QUINN.

Mr. BLILEY.

Mr. KANJORSKI.

Mr. PORTMAN.

Mr. THOMPSON.

Mr. EDWARDS.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida.

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado.

Mr. KIND.

Mr. DIXON.

Mr. HALL of Texas.

Mr. CLYBURN.

Mr. DOOLEY of California.

Mr. CLAY.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. DELAY) and to include extraneous matter:

Mr. MCCOLLUM.

Mr. FORBES.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

Mr. PORTER.

Mr. GALLEGLY.

Mr. McDERMOTT.

Mr. WELLER.

Mr. SKELTON.

Mr. PAYNE.

Mr. MENENDEZ.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, March 23, 1998, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8099. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Tomatoes Grown in Florida and Imported Tomatoes; Final Rule to Change Minimum Grade Requirements [Docket No. FV98-966-1 FR] received March 18, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8100. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Raisins Produced from Grapes Grown in California; Final Free and Reserve Percentages for 1997-1998 Crop Natural (Sun-Dried) Seedless and Zante Currant Raisins [FV98-989-1 IFR] received March 18, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8101. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Titanium Dioxide; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-300632; FRL-5779-3] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received March 18, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8102. A letter from the Deputy Executive Director, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Distribution of Customer Property Related to Trading on the Chicago Board of Trade-London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange Trading Link [17 CFR Part 190] received February 23, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8103. A letter from the the Director, the Office of Management and Budget, transmitting the cumulative report on rescissions and deferrals of budget authority as of March 1, 1998, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 685(e); (H. Doc. No. 105-232); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

8104. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule—Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Veterans Employment Emphasis [DFARS Case 97-D314] received March 9, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on National Security.

8105. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a report regarding actions to combat terrorism, pursuant to Public Law 105-85; to the Committee on National Security.

8106. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Housing Improvement Program (RIN: 1076-AD52) received February 25, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

8107. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Mergers or Conversions of Federally Insured Credit Unions to Non Credit Union Status; NCUA Approval [12 CFR Part 708a] received March 18, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

8108. A letter from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to repeal and streamline a wide range of programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.